

SHEPSHED URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT.

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR

1906.

BY

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Shepshed Urban Sanitary District.

To the Chairman and Members of the Urban District Council.

GENTLEMEN,—

I herewith submit to you my Annual Report on the health of your District for the year 1906.

The
Population.

At the last census, 5293 persons were enumerated in your District. My estimate of the population at the middle of the year is 5550 persons—being an increase of 50 for the year—and on this number are the statistics for the year based.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Births.

During the year 138 births were registered (71 males and 67 females), which is equivalent to a birth-rate of 24·8 per thousand inhabitants, as compared with 26·1 for the year 1905. The average birth-rate for the ten preceding years was 29·4. Of the 138 births, six were illegitimate.

Deaths.

The total number of deaths registered as occurring in your District was 67 (40 males and 27 females). This produces a death-rate of 12 per thousand inhabitants, as compared with 16·7 for last year. The average death-rate for the ten preceding years was 14·5. There were also registered six deaths of residents occurring in public institutions beyond the District, which increases the nett deaths belonging to the District to 73, and the nett death-rate to 13·1, as compared with 17·2 for the preceding year. The monthly death-rate was highest during February (11) and August (9). Of the 67 deaths 26 were children under one year, and 12 in persons over 65 years.

Inquests.

Three inquests were held during the year on persons who died as the result of accidents.

Natural
Increase.

The number of births exceed the number of deaths by 71, as compared with 52 for 1905.

Infant
Mortality.

There were 26 deaths in children under one year of age, giving an infant mortality of 188·4, as compared with 173·6 in 1905. The average for the ten preceding years was 141·6.

No infants died from the common infectious diseases, but five died from diarrhoeal diseases, thirteen from wasting diseases, one from tubercular diseases,

and seven from other causes (*vide* Table V.) This enormous infant mortality naturally gives rise to some alarm, and I have analysed the causes of death to discover, if possible, whether something could not be done to lessen it. It will be seen that more than half the deaths are due to wasting and diarrhoeal diseases—diseases partly the result of maternal weakness during pregnancy, and partly of carelessness and ignorance of proper feeding of infants. It is difficult to find a remedy for the former, but the latter I hope will be greatly alleviated by the advent of the District Nurse, one of whose duties ought to be to instruct and to demonstrate to mothers the proper methods of infantile hygiene. I cannot too strongly condemn the use of feeding bottles with tubes, and also dummy teats, both of which are a prolific cause of gastric troubles in infants.

ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

Notifications	Only ten cases of infectious disease were notified, including one case of diphtheria, four of erysipelas, four of scarlet fever, and one of enteric fever.
Zymotic Mortality.	No deaths were attributed to notifiable infectious diseases, but five were due to diarrhoea, giving a zymotic mortality of 0·9, as compared with 1·4 for last year.
Diphtheria.	One case was notified, the first which has occurred in the District since the beginning of the year 1902. Anti-diphtheritic serum was supplied by your Council with good results, both in the curative and in the prophylactic treatment.
Erysipelas.	Four cases of a mild type were notified.
Scarlet Fever.	Four cases were notified, all at different times of the year, and in different neighbourhoods.
Enteric Fever.	One case was notified at the beginning of the year. This one was of a mild character, and was contracted from another case which was notified towards the end of the year 1905, the two patients living next door to one another.
Mumps.	Cases of this disease were seen during August and September, but toward the end of the latter month the disease became so prevalent that I closed the National Schools, and one week later extended the closnre to the other Day Schools, as well as to the Sunday Schools.
Measles.	I only saw one case, and that was imported.
Diarrhoea.	Five deaths were due to diarrhoea. This disease was very prevalent among children during the months of August and September.
Disinfectants	These are freely supplied to houses where cases of infectious disease exist. All the schools were disinfected during the holidays.

OTHER DISEASES.

Epidemic Influenza.	This disease was prevalent during the month of December.
Pneumonia.	Many cases occurred during January, February, and May—five deaths being attributed to it.

Phthisis
and other
tubercular
diseases.

Seven deaths were due to phthisis, as compared with eight for the preceding year. Your Council have not adopted voluntary notification of this disease. I beg to recommend that leaflets, giving instructions for preventing the spread of this disease, be provided for the medical men in the District to distribute to those suffering from the disease.

Three deaths were due to other tubercular diseases.

For some time I have suspected that tubercular diseases have been too prevalent in the District, and to find data for establishing this suspicion I have examined the Annual Reports of the District for the last ten years, from which I have prepared the following table :—

Years.	Phthisis per centage rate of all deaths.	Tuberculosis per centage rate of all deaths.	Phthisis death rate per 1000 living.
1897	7.5	...	1.2
1898	9	...	1.2
1899	13.4	...	1.8
1900	7.3	13.5	1.4
1901	12.3	27.4	1.7
1902	9.3	23.1	1.1
1903	14.2	21.4	1.9
1904	9.4	12	1.3
1905	8.7	10.8	1.4
1906	10.3	14.9	1.2

These rates are much above those for the county, which last year (1905) were:—Phthisis, per centage of all deaths, 6.3 ; Tuberculosis, per centage of all deaths, 9.4 ; and Phthisis death-rate, 0.85 per 1000 living (Phthisis death-rate for Urban District, 0.9). Not in a single year of the ten do our rates come near those of the county for last year, and in several instances they are double. The recommendation which I have made for the distribution of instructive leaflets might result in reducing the number of cases of this disease.

WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply is mostly obtained from wells. During last summer the Loughborough Corporation laid the water mains in the streets for the supply of water from the New Reservoir at Blackbrook. This supply was available on November 22nd, and 18 connections were made.

Fifteen samples of water from wells were examined, and of these seven were from new wells. Three of the samples were not fit to drink, but ultimately, on re-examination after an interval, two of these were passed as good.

SEWERAGE.

Main sewers.

The street man-holes have been regularly attended to during the year. Six new connections were made under the supervision of the Surveyor, who

reports that in five cases the main sewer was free from deposit, but that in the sixth case (Factory street) it was found necessary to take up and re-lay the whole sewer.

Leicester
Road
Sewerage.

Your Council applied to the Local Government Board for powers to raise a loan of £800 for extending the sewer along Leicester road—a most necessary improvement. An inquiry was held by Mr. A. A. G. Malet, the Local Government Board Inspector, and the result was that the Local Government Board withheld their sanction to this loan until the sewage farm was put into a better condition for sewage disposal.

Sewage
Farm.

Another scheme for improving the farm has been prepared and submitted to the Board, together with a requisition to borrow a further £600 to carry out the proposed new works. This scheme includes the re-laying of the main sewer from the Hathern road to the farm, improvements to the detritus chamber, and the laying out of the farm into osier beds. We hope that your Council will soon get the sanction of the Local Government Board to borrow the required sums of money, so that both the Leicester road sewer and the new works at the farm may be completed during the coming summer. Some work has been done at the farm in preparation for the new scheme, and your Council has engaged a man whose sole duty is the care of the farm.

There are now 18 water-closets, 16 of which are connected with the sewer. The remaining two are in Leicester road, and these will be connected when the sewer is laid.

SCAVENGING.

This is done by contract. The work was not being carried out to the satisfaction of the Sanitary Inspector, and your Council decided to dismiss one of the contractors from the contract, since when there has been a great improvement. There are now 385 pails to be emptied weekly, an increase of 15 on the number for last year.

Household rubbish is removed monthly by the Council; and recently it was decided to remove trade refuse, the burning of which by tradesmen on their premises has been the source of great annoyance to the neighbouring householders.

NUISANCES.

House to house inspections have been made in neighbourhoods where old properties exist, and these visits result in many improvements. An inspection was made of all premises in Leicester road, and this demonstrated the urgent need for the proper severing of the road.

Butchers' shops, fish shops, slaughter houses, and one knacker's yard were also inspected, and generally found satisfactory.

PLANS AND BUILDINGS.

Eighteen plans of buildings were examined and passed. These included 12 dwelling-houses, golf pavilion, and alterations and extensions of business premises.

At the middle of the year there were 1245 inhabited houses—an increase of 16 for the year.

FACTORIES AND WORK-SHOPS.

Hosiery and Boot and Shoe manufactories—both carried on in factories and work-shops—are the staple industries of the District.

Factories. There are six hosiery factories, five shoe factories, three joiners' shops, and one brick-works. All were inspected and found satisfactory.

Work-shops. The total number of work-shops is 44, including 18 hosiery, three boot and shoe, one printer's, one needle-maker's, six tailors', nine dress-makers', and six bake-houses. These were all inspected, and in 10 nuisances were abated after notice. There are no under-ground bake-houses.

Home-work. Manufacturers were more regular in sending in their lists of out-workers, but there is still room for improvement in this direction. The hosiery trade provides the greater part of the home-work. Twenty-five lists were received from manufacturers in the District, including 484 addresses of out-workers. There were also received from other authorities 43 addresses of out-workers, making a total of 527 in the District. There were 196 home-workers' premises inspected, including seven houses in which were cases of infectious diseases. Notices were sent to the manufacturers concerned, forbidding them to give out home-work to these houses.

Common Lodging-houses. None exist in the District.

DAIRIES, COW-SHEDS, AND MILK-SHOPS' ORDERS.

The regulations under these orders were adopted, and came into force on January 1st, 1906.

There are 53 dairies and cow-sheds in the District, of which only 13 are registered. Towards the end of the year 66 inspections were made. Generally it was found that the premises of the larger farms were all that could be desired; but in the case of the smaller places there were many defects found. Thirty-seven notices were sent out, including 25 for lime-washing, five for defective drainage, four for bad water supply, and three for other sanitary defects. Another visit will be made at an early date, and by that time I hope to be able to give a more satisfactory report on the sanitary condition of the dairies and cow-sheds of the District.

RESUMÉ.

The birth-rate shows a decided falling off. In 1896 the birth-rate was 34 per 1000, and it has dropped to 24·8 for this year.

There is a great improvement in the death-rate, it being 12 per 1000 for deaths occurring in the District, and 13·1 including deaths of residents occurring beyond the District. This compares very favourably with 16·7, the death-rate for 1905; and with 14·5, the average death-rate for the last decade.

The infant mortality (188·4) is far too high, and forms the worst part of this report.

I sincerely hope that the Leicester road sewer, and the improvements at the sewage farm, will be completed this summer. I also hope to see a great improvement in the sanitary conditions of the dairies and cow-sheds.

The general sanitary condition of the District is good.

I have the honour, Gentlemen, to remain,

Your obedient Servant,

THOMAS BELL.

Shepshed,

12th February, 1907.

TABLE I.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1906 and previous Years.

YEAR.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.							Deaths of Residents registered in Public Insti- tutions beyond the District.	Nett Deaths at all Ages belonging to the District.	
		BIRTHS.		Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.		Rate.*		Number	Rate.*
		Number	Rate.*	Number	Rate per 1000 births registered	Number	Rate.*				
1896	5000	170	34	22	129	68	13.6	...	...	...
1897	5000	112	22.4	19	169	80	16	...	...	...
1898	5000	162	32.4	16	98	66	13.2	...	...	...
1899	5000	151	30.2	19	125	67	13.4	..	...	...
1900	5000	158	31.6	34	215	96	19.2	...	...	...
1901	5293	163	30.8	24	147	73	13.8	...	...	...
1902	5293	154	29.1	19	123	64	12	...	...	...
1903	5293	160	30.2	18	112	70	13.2	1	71	13.4	
1904	5400	151	27	19	125	74	13.7	4	78	14.4	
1905	5500	144	26.1	25	173	92	16.7	3	95	17.2	
Averages for years 1896-1905.	5178	152.5	29.4	21.5	141.6	75	14.5				
1906	5550	138	24.8	26	188.4	67	12	6	73	13.1	

* Rates calculated per 1000 estimated population.
Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water), 5280.
Total population at all ages at census of 1901, 5293.
Number of inhabited houses " " 1161.
Average number of persons per house " " 4.4.

TABLE III.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1906.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.					
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.				
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65. 65 and upwards
Small-pox	...	..	...	...	...	...
Cholera	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria	1	...	1	...	...	..
Membranous croup	...	...	...	...	...	..
Erysipelas	4	...	...	...	1	2
Scarlet fever	4	...	2	2	...	...
Typhus fever	...	..	...	...	...	...
Enteric fever	1	...	..	1	...	...
Relapsing fever	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued fever	..	..	...	...	...	..
Puerperal fever	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plague	...	..	..	...	...	..
Totals	10	..	3	3	1	1

TABLE IV.

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during the Year 1906.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	DEATHS AT THE SUBJOINED AGES OF "RESIDENTS" WHETHER OCCURRING IN OR BEYOND THE DISTRICT.						
	All Ages.	Under 1 Year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and up- wards.
Small-pox							
Measles							
Scarlet fever...							
Whooping cough							
Diphtheria and membranous croup ...							
Croup	2	...	2	...	..	...	...
Fever { Typhus							
{ Enteric							
{ Other continued							
Epidemic influenza							
Cholera							
Plague							
Diarrhœa	5	4	1	...	...	...	...
Enteritis							
Puerperal fever							
Erysipelas							
Other septic diseases							
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis) ...	7	1	1	...	3	2	...
Other tubercular diseases	3	...	2	...	...	1	...
Cancer, malignant disease	3	...	...	...	...	1	2
Bronchitis	5	4	...	...	...	1	..
Pneumonia	5	1	1	...	1	2	...
Pleurisy							
Other diseases of Respiratory Organs...	3	2	1	..	...	...	...
Alcoholism Cirrhosis of liver							
Venereal diseases							
Premature birth	3	3	...	...	..	...	...
Diseases and accidents of parturition ...							
Heart diseases	3	...	1	...	...	1	1
Accidents	3	...	...	...	...	2	1
Suicides							
All other causes	25	11	...	1	...	5	8
All causes	67	26	9	1	4	15	12

TABLE V.

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1906.

Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.				Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 Month.	1-2 Months.	2-3 Months.	3-4 Months.	4-5 Months.	5-6 Months.	6-7 Months.	7-8 Months.	8-9 Months.	9-10 Months.	10-11 Months.	11-12 Months.	Total Deaths under One Year.
All Causes.	{ Certified...	...	...	5	1	1	1	8	2	3	2	3	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	26
	{ Uncertified	...	...															
Common Infectious Diseases.	{ Small-pox	...	...															
	{ Chicken-pox	...	...															
	{ Measles	...	...															
	{ Scarlet Fever	...	...															
	{ Diphtheria: Croup	...	...															
	{ Whooping Cough...	...	...															
Diarrhoeal Diseases.	{ Diarrhoea, all forms	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	4
	{ Enteritis, Muco-enteritis, Gastro-enteritis	...	...															
	{ Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Wasting Diseases.	{ Premature Birth	...	...	2	...	...	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
	{ Congenital Defects	...	...	1	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
	{ Injury at Birth	...	...															
	{ Want of Breast-milk, Starvation	...	...															
	{ Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	2	1	1	...	1	...	1	1	...	...	...	8
Tuberculous Diseases.	{ Tuberculous Meningitis	...	...															
	{ Tuberculous Peritonitis: Tabes Mesenterica	...	...															
	{ Other Tuberculous Diseases...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
Other Causes.	{ Erysipelas	...	...															
	{ Syphilis	...	...															
	{ Rickets	...	...															
	{ Meningitis (not Tuberculous)	...	...															
	{ Convulsions	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	2
	{ Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	3
	{ Laryngitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
	{ Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
	{ Suffocation, overlying	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
	{ Other causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
				5	1	1	1	8	2	3	2	3	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	26

District of SHEPSHED.

Population
Estimated to middle of 1906,
5550.

Births in the year { legitimate ... 132
 { illegitimate ... 6

Deaths in the year of { legitimate infants ... 22
 { illegitimate infants ... 4

Deaths from all Causes at all Ages ... 67.

Factories, Work-shops, Laundries, Workplaces, & Homework.

1.—INSPECTION.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
Factories (including Factory Laundries) ..	14	0	
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries) ...	44	10	
Total	58	10	Nil.

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecutions.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
Want of cleanliness	10	10		
Insufficient sanitary accommodation ...	1	1		
Total	11	11	Nil.	Nil.

3.—HOME WORK. Wearing Apparel—Making, &c.

	Lists.	Out-workers.
Outworkers' Lists, section 107—		
Lists received from Employers twice in the year	20	404
“ “ once in the year	5	80
Numbers of Addresses of Outworkers received from other Councils ...		43
“ “ “ forwarded “ “		8
Prosecutions—Failing to keep or permit inspection of lists ...		0
Failing to send lists		0
Number of Inspections of Outworkers' premises		196
Outwork in Unwholesome premises, section 108—		
Instances		0
Notices served		0
Prosecutions		0
Outwork in Infected premises, sections 109, 110—		
Instances		7
Orders made (s. 110)		7
Prosecutions (sections 109, 110)		0

4.—REGISTERED WORK-SHOPS.

Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year.	Number.
Hosiery Workshops	18
Boot and Shoe Workshops	3
Needle-makers' Workshop	1
Printer	1
Tailors	6
Dressmakers	9
Bakehouses	6
Total number of Work-shops on Register... ..	44

5.—OTHER MATTERS.—Nil.

